[*English*]

Consumer Protection Act and MRTP Act

3528. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations of the working group on consumer protection Act and MRTP Act; and

(b) the view of the Government on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). The main recommendation of the working group are; to enlarge the scope of definitions of the word 'Consumer; 'Complaint', Services; restriction of role of lawyers in three tier redressal a egenci envisaged in the Act; giving of more powers to redressal agencies; bringing of decisions of redressal agencies under Acticle 323B of the Constitution; prior approval of the MRTP Commission for any proposal to amalgamate/Merger of two undertaking which may restrict competition in the market etc.The report of the working group will be discused in the next meeting of the Central Consumer Projection Council which will make suitable recommendation to the Government. tor amending the Act.

Capital Funds Drawan by Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Lmt.

3530 DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3165 on August 28, 1990 and state :

(a) whether Audit objection had been raised on the division of capital funds for meeting the cash looses of the IDPL on certificates contrary to the facts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken against those found guilty of making wrong declarations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). The Indian Audit & Accounts Department (Officed of the Principal Director of Commercial Audit and Ex-Officio, Member Audit Board), New Delhi had during the inspection of the accounts of the Corporation office of Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Gurgaon, for the period from October, 1989 to March, 1991, observed that the Management had diverted funds, released by the Government for capital expenditure during the years 1987-88 to 1989-90. The Audit Department, also observed that the diversio, acording to the Managements, had to be made for making payments to the pressing creditors tor supply and services, making statutory payments, meeting increased wage bill and increased tariff for electricity etc., as the company had been incurring heavy cash losses.

Indian Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. had been incurring heavy cash losses over the year and because of acute shortage of working capital, meagre non–plan budgetary support, the company had no alternative but to temporarity fund a part of the cash loss by using capital funds which would be recouped once the capital restructuring of the company is approved.

Special cell to promote Japanese Investment

3531. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether japan has agreed to set up